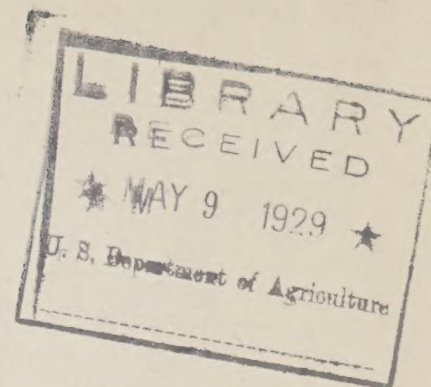


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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WEATHER BUREAU

C. F. MARVIN, Chief



Forecast Division

Washington, D. C., April 15, 1929

BROADCASTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF AVIATION AND COMMERCIAL
INTERESTS ON THE PACIFIC COAST

The U. S. Weather Bureau, through the Naval Radio Station NPG, at San Francisco, Calif., broadcasts early reports of weather observations taken at about 130 stations in the United States, Canada, and Alaska; also, ship reports from vessels in the eastern Pacific Ocean and pilot balloon upper-air aerological reports from selected stations. The observations taken at land, vessel, and aerological stations are in the Weather Bureau word codes applying to these types of stations, and are easily decoded.

BROADCASTING SCHEDULES

At 6:18 a. m. (120th meridian time).—Daily, including Sundays and holidays. Average time, about 1 hour.

At 6:18 p. m. (120th meridian time).—Daily, including Sundays and holidays. Average time, between 40 and 45 minutes.

Both a. m. and p. m. broadcasts are made on simultaneous frequencies of 8,590, 108, and 42.8 kilocycles (34.9, 2,776, and 7,000 meters, respectively).

(1) All observations in the foregoing broadcasts are of current date, taken at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. (120th meridian time), and they contain coded weather information in a group of words arranged for each station, as follows:

- (a) Sea-level barometric pressure.
Current temperature.
- (b) Wind direction.
State of weather.
Temperature (minimum in the a. m. broadcast and maximum in the p. m. broadcast).
- (c) *Sea-level barometric pressure of the previous 5 p. m. observation.
Maximum temperature of preceding 24 hours ending at 5 a. m.
- (d) Wind velocity.
Amount of precipitation.
- (e) Clouds (kind, direction, and rate of movement).

*The third word of the group indicated at (c) is included only in the 5 a. m. observations broadcast at 6:18 a. m. Therefore, in the 6:18 p. m. broadcast (d) becomes the third word and (e) the fourth word.

Reports from Alaska, except those from Juneau, Kodiak, Dutch Harbor, and St. Paul, are observations taken 12 hours previously.

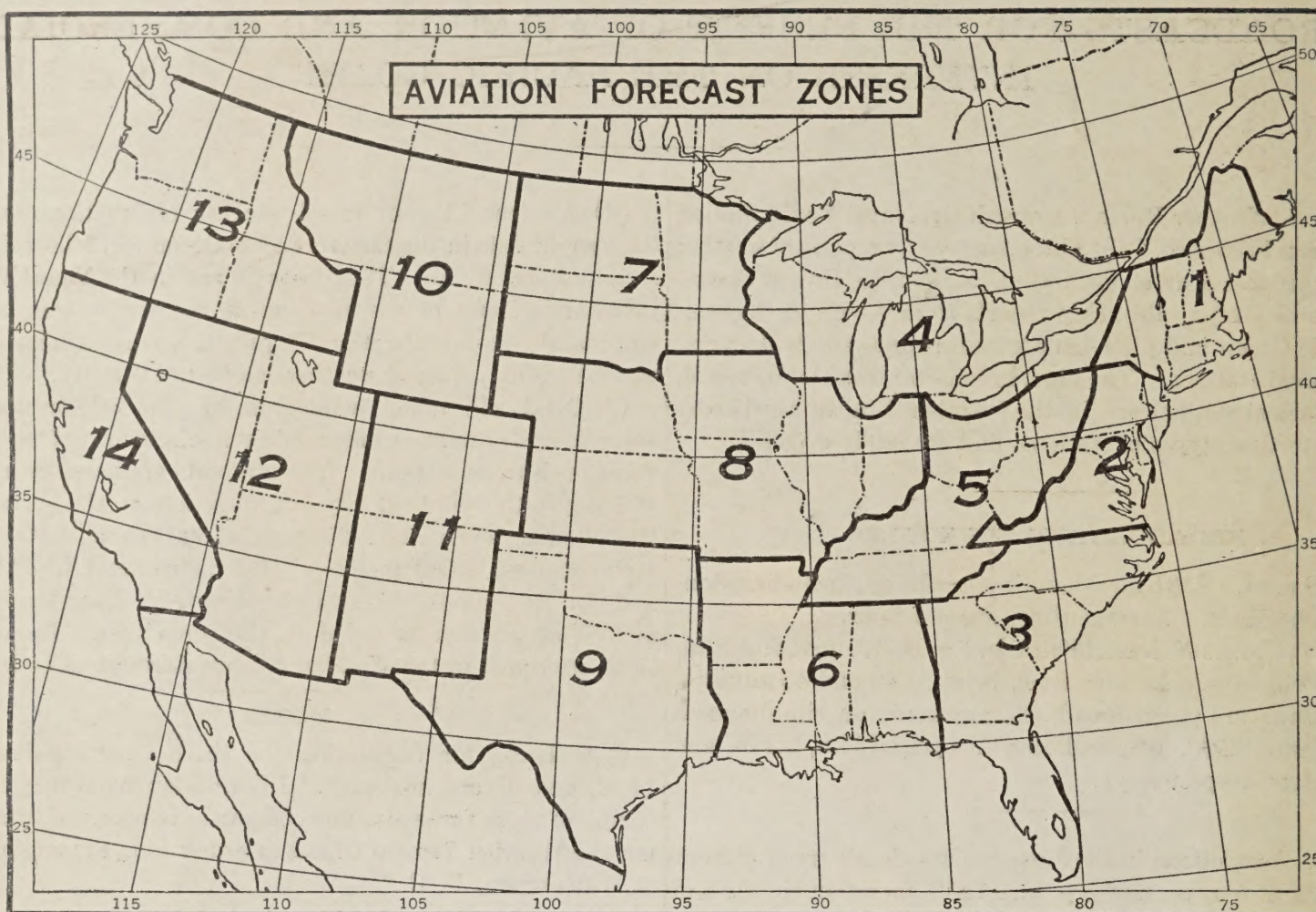
(2) A selected list of vessel weather observations taken on the current date in the eastern Pacific Ocean will follow the land-station observations. These reports are in the Vessel Weather Code, and consist of the position of the vessels (latitude and longitude), sea-level barometric pressure, current temperature, wind direction, state of weather, and wind velocity.

(3) Next will follow aerological, or pilot balloon upper-air, observations of current date made at a selected list of far-western Weather Bureau stations. These reports are based on readings which give the wind velocity and direction at the surface, and the following levels aloft: 250 meters, 500 meters, 1,000 meters, 1,500 meters, 2,000 meters, 3,000 meters, and 4,000 meters, and for the maximum altitude observed. Data for visibility and clouds are also included in this broadcast. The observations are coded in the Weather Bureau Aerological Code.

NOTES

Code books for translating the three foregoing broadcasts (1, 2, and 3) are necessary. Information regarding the procuring of these three separate codes may be obtained by addressing the Weather Bureau Offices at either San Francisco, Calif., or Washington, D. C.

No forecasts of any kind are included in the broadcasts, as such forecasts, for the benefit of aviation, marine, and commercial interests are broadcast from the same radio station (NPG) immediately following the daily Major Marine Bulletin, which is described in the Weather Bureau Radio Circular No. 10 (Fourth Edition—Revised). The forecasts are for aviation zones 12, 13, and 14 (see chart on back), and also for the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, and California. The forecasts are in plain language. In the a. m. broadcast the period covered by the State forecasts is 24 hours, beginning 5 p. m. of the same day; in the p. m. broadcasts for 36 hours, beginning at 5 a. m. the next day. The aviation forecasts broadcast in the a. m. are for 12 hours, beginning at noon of the same day and continuing until midnight; those in the p. m. broadcast are for 12 hours, from midnight until noon of the next day. The Major Marine Bulletin begins at 7:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. (120th meridian time) and usually occupies between 35 and 40 minutes in the morning and between 30 and 35 minutes at night. Listeners desiring the forecasts, and who do not wish to copy the entire Major Bulletin, may easily adjust their schedules to the reception of the forecasts only.



Forecasts of weather conditions and of wind at surface and aloft are issued twice daily for the benefit of aviators. They are made at approximately 9:30 a. m. and 9:30 p. m. (75th meridian time), and cover a period of 12 hours, beginning at noon and midnight, respectively.

The forecasts for the various zones are prepared and issued from forecast centers of the Weather Bureau, as follows:

- Washington, D. C.—Zones 1, 2, 3, and 5.
- Chicago, Ill.—Zones 4, 7, and 8.
- New Orleans, La.—Zones 6 and 9.
- Denver, Colo.—Zones 10 and 11.
- San Francisco, Calif.—Zones 12, 13, and 14.

(Effective April 1, 1929.)

(WB-4-16-29-3,500)